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WINSLOW RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1951.

July, 1952.

To the Chairman & Councillors of
Winslow Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the annual report on the health and vital statistics for the year 1951, together with details of the sanitary circumstances of the district as indicated in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, Mr. Piper. There was an increase in the total number of infectious diseases notified during the year. As in neighbouring areas this was due in great measure to the increase in the number of measles and whooping cough cases. Whooping cough is one of the most debilitating diseases of childhood and the early innoculation of infants cannot be too strongly emphasised. Of the twelve scarlet fever cases notified, four were treated in hospital. One case of anterior poliomyelitis was notified, the child was treated in hospital and recovered with slight residual paralysis. A case of paratyphoid in an adult was treated at the Aylesbury Isolation Hospital; extensive investigation of the environmental circumstances and immediate contacts failed to reveal the cause. Two suspected cases of food poisoning following a local fete were found to be excreting salmonella typhi-murium; one was treated in hospital, both made an uneventful recovery. The actual vehicle of infection was not discovered, but the prevalence of organisms of this type show the danger lurking in improperly prepared foodstuffs.

In addition to the housing survey, the extensive sewerage schemes, and mains water supply extensions throughout the district, have occupied much of the time of the Health Department. I thank the Council, members of the Public Health Committee and Staff generally for their ever willing help at all times. The progress made in the general sanitation of the district will, I am sure, pay good dividends.

I am, Lady & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS FOR 1951.

Medical Officer of Health	Dr. J.T.C. Sims-Roberts.
Medical Officer under Poor Law Acts	Dr. P.F. Rudd.
Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor	Mr. C.S. Piper.
Additional Sanitary Inspector	Mr. N.J. Shipp.
Public Health Clerk	Mr. D.W. French.

EXTRACT OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1951.

	1950. Total.	M.	F.	1951. Total.	M.	F.
Live Births - Legitimate	95	35	60	139	79	60
Illegitimate	3	2	1	6	5	1
Still Births - Legitimate	2	1	1	1	1	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-	-

	1950.	1951.
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	12.8	19.5
Birth Rate (corrected)	14.6	22.2
Total (live & still) Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	13.0	19.7
Birth Rate for England & Wales	15.8	15.5

	1950. Total.	M.	F.	1951. Total.	M.	F.
Deaths	109	57	52	137	60	77

	1950.	1951.
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	14.2	18.5
Standardised Death Rate	10.5	13.7
Death Rate for England & Wales	11.6	12.5

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :-	1950. Total.	M.	F.	1951. Total.	M.	F.
Legitimate	1	-	1	7	3	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-	-

	1950.	1951.
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :-		
All Infants per 1,000 live births ..	10.2	48.3
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	10.5	50.3
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	-

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :-	1950. Total.	M.	F.	1951. Total.	M.	F.
Legitimate	1	-	1	4	2	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-	-

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	36,260.
Population	7,420.
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December 1951 (according to Rate Book)	2,438.
Rateable Value (31st December 1951)	£30,127.
Sum represented by Penny Rate (31st March 1951)	£113. 10. 5.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

During the year 205 cases were reported of which 7 were treated in hospital.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1951.

Measles	143	(8)	
Pneumonia	5	(6)	
Whooping Cough	35	(3)	Bracketted figures
Scarlet Fever	12	(16)	are those for 1950.
Para-typhoid B.	1	(-)	
Salmonella Typhi-murium	2	(-)	
Acute Paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	(-)	

Tuberculosis (Respiratory) New Cases. 6 (7)

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

Total number of outbreaks	1.
Number of cases	2.
Number of deaths	Nil.
Organisms responsible - Salmonella Typhi-murium	1.

Foods involved - Source of outbreak undiscovered.

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS.

Tuberculosis, respiratory	1.
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1.
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	2.
" " , lung, bronchus	2.
" " , breast	2.
" " , uterus	1.
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	9.
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1.
Diabetes	2.
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	22.
Coronary Disease, Angina	11.
Hypertension with Heart Disease	3.
Other Heart Disease	22.
" Circulatory Disease	5.
Influenza	3.
Pneumonia	8.
Bronchitis	11.
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2.
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1.
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2.
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1.
Congenital Malformations	1.
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	17.
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1.
All Other Accidents	4.
Suicide	2.
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GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Hospitals.

Hospital accommodation for the district is provided by the Royal Bucks and Tindal General Hospitals , Aylesbury. Infectious disease cases are admitted to the Aylesbury Isolation Hospital.

These three Hospitals are administered by the Aylesbury and District Hospital Management Committee.

Cases are admitted to the Stoke Mandeville Hospital or the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, if bed space is unavailable.

Similarly, infectious disease cases are admitted to Infectious Disease Hospitals within the Oxford Region when there is no accommodation locally.

Pathological Specimens.

The majority of specimens for examination are submitted to the Pathology Laboratory, Stoke Mandeville Hospital. The services of the Public Health Laboratories at Luton and Oxford are utilised whenever necessary.

Ambulance Services.

The ambulance services in the area are the responsibility of the Bucks County Council. Five ambulances are stationed in the Borough of Aylesbury for the use of the town and surrounding district. Included in this number is a sitting-case ambulance and a vehicle garaged at the Isolation Hospital for transporting Infectious Disease cases.

Maternity & Child Welfare.

This service is controlled by the Bucks County Council. Infant Welfare Clinics are held at Great Horwood, Stewkley and Winslow and a Mobile Welfare Centre visits Mursley, Newton Longville, Shenley and Swanbourne.

Diphthèria & Whooping Cough Immunisation.

The Bucks County Council, being the Local Health Authority, as defined by the National Health Service Act, 1946, administer this service.

Treatment of Venereal Disease.

A Venereal Disease Clinic is held regularly at the Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury, where free treatment is given. This clinic is administered by the Aylesbury and District Hospital Management Committee.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948; Section 47 (1).
Removal of Persons in need of Care and Attention.

It was not necessary to remove any case to hospital under this Act during the year.

Mr. Chairman, Madam & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1951.

The improvement resulting from the virtual completion of the Stewkley and Drayton Parslow Sewage Schemes will shortly be felt, and this, together with the Schemes in progress will go far to clear up the longstanding nuisances caused by sewer ditches and properties with inadequate facilities for sewage disposal.

Details of the general sanitary circumstances of the area will be found under the appropriate headings.

I would also express my appreciation for the continued co-operation offered by all members of the Staff and for the consideration and interest always shown by the various committees and the Council in dealing with matters concerning this department.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The following new connections to the Bucks Water Board mains have been reported during 1951.

Drayton Parslow	5	Nash	2
Dunton	-	Newton Longville	8
East Claydon	1	North Marston	4
Granborough	4	Shenley Brook End	1
Great Horwood	6	Stewkley	14
Hoggeston	-	Swanbourne	6
Hogshaw	-	Tattenhoe	-
Little Horwood	4	Whaddon	2
Mursley	2	Winslow	10

Of these, 6 properties were connected following the service of Statutory Notices.

I am indebted to the Bucks Water Board for the following information.

1. Supply throughout the area has been at all times satisfactory, both as regards quality and quantity.
2. Raw water is sampled at approximately monthly intervals. All reports have been satisfactory.
3. Sample of the water from the distributing mains serving this district are taken monthly. All have been satisfactory.
4. Chemical samples are taken quarterly at the source. All satisfactory.
5. There is no tendency to plumbo-solvency.

Particulars of water supply are shown parochially as follows:

Parish.	No. of Dwelling Houses on Main.	Est. Pop.	No. of Stand Pipes.	Est. Pop.
Drayton Parslow	91	330	5	18
Dunton	14	52	3	11
East Claydon	74	312	4	10
Granborough	52	223	4	12
Great Horwood	93	337	18	36
Hoggeston	14	52	2	5
Hogshaw	9	18	-	-
Little Horwood	40	151	8	22
Mursley	77	320	9	39
Nash	25	64	3	6
Newton Longville	239	526	11	37
North Marston	87	333	2	5
Shenley Brook End	35	153	2	6
Stewkley	241	659	10	43
Swanbourne	77	257	-	-
Tattenhoe	3	13	-	-
Whaddon	53	160	7	25
Winslow	400	1532	20	68

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

Although not officially handed over the Sewerage Schemes at Drayton Parslow and Stewkley are virtually completed. The connection of house properties is well advanced and property owners, with few exceptions, are making plans to improve facilities and bring the premises up to present day standards as regards sanitary accommodation, and in many cases; bathrooms.

No additional works have been completed for inclusion in this year's report.

MEAT & OTHER FOODS.

Routine inspections of all butchers' shops and shops selling or preparing food have been carried out. No slaughter houses operate within this area.

Unfit food condemned during the year amounted to 102 lbs., chiefly in respect of tinned foods.

ICE CREAM.

There are no premises where ice cream is manufactured within the area.

25 retailers are registered, all of whom sell well-known brands of pre-packed ice cream. Routine inspection has shown no cause for complaint.

PREPARATION OF FOOD.

Inspections of premises used for the preparation of food are carried out at the several small cafes and hotels in the area. Generally, conditions are satisfactory. In one case, plans are now in hand for the enlargement and improvement of an unsatisfactory kitchen, resulting from informal action.

BYELAWS (FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938; Section 15).

The model byelaws adopted by the Council at the end of last year have been circulated to all persons concerned and are an aid to improving the conditions under which food for sale to the public is prepared.

There is still insufficient awareness on the part of retailers for care in display and distribution and the necessity for protection from flies, dust and similar causes of contamination.

This is particularly evident in the cases of fish and bread.

FOOD POISONING.

2 cases have been notified and are the subject of comment in the report by the Medical Officer of Health.

MILK & DAIRIES.

Retail Dairies are the subject of routine inspection.

As a result of complaints received regarding dirty milk bottles, the retailers concerned were visited and improved methods of cleaning advised. Some improvement has taken place.

Considerable help may be given by members of the public if they carry out the elementary precaution of rinsing out the bottles immediately after emptying.

REFUSE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL.

is very satisfactorily maintained for a district of this nature, but the necessity for a larger capacity vehicle in the near future is certain.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

Percentages for the area are as follows:-

Category I.	Fit in all respects	37%
" II.	Minor repairs required	28%
" III.	Major repairs required	27%
" IV.	Suitable for reconstruction under R.W. Acts	3%
" V.	Not repairable at reasonable expense	5%

HOUSING.

Subject to the unusual circumstances due to shortage and post-war conditions, all reasonable steps have been taken to improve the general standard. In addition to improvements carried out as a result of informal action, 5 undertakings have been accepted from owners following formal action under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936, and 7 notices have been served under Section 9, three of which have been carried out by the Council and the cost recovered from the owners. The remaining four have not yet been finally settled.

FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS.

The following inspections were carried out during the year:-

	No. on Register.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Occs. Pros.
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	21	3	NIL.
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	14	17	1	NIL.
TOTAL	23	38	4	NIL.

Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.	Referred To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	Pros.
Want of Cleanliness	3	3	NIL.		NIL.
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	NIL.	1	NIL.		NIL.
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	1	1	NIL.		NIL.
TOTAL	4	5	NIL.		NIL.

No. of Outworkers.

Wearing Apparel (Making, etc.) 1.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS.

The following miscellaneous inspections were carried out in 1951.

Water Supplies	67.
Milk & Dairies	35.
Sewers & Drains	228.
Refuse Tips (including Salvage)	43.
Nuisances Abated	28.
Inspections re Sanitary Accommodation ...	37.
Bakehouses	9.
Housing	260.
W.C. Conversions	36.
Infectious Disease Visits	14.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Madam & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector.